REMARKS

I. Claims Status

Claims 1, 6-13, 15 and 16 are pending in this application.

Claim 1 is amended

Claim 2-5 are canceled.

II. Objections to the Claims

The Office has objected to claims 5-7, 10 and 12 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim.

In order to expedite prosecution, Applicants have amended the claims as suggested in the Office Action and as suggested by the Examiner in a recent telephone call. Applicants reserve their right to file a divisional application covering the deleted subject matter.

III. Conclusion

In view of the amendment and remarks made above, Applicants believe that this application is now in condition for allowance.

Reconsideration and allowance of claims 1, 6-13, 15 and 16 is respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,

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